

REPORT GIVEN BEFORE THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT
OF THE INTERNATIONAL YMCA
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by

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(members elected by the Teen Club to
represent the teens before the Board.)

Since the beginning of summer, there has been a great interest in the increased number of teen coming to the International Y.M.C.A. There is interest not only because of the great increase, but because this increase has shown that a great number of teens from the community itself have become aware of what the "Y" has to offer. We feel the reasons for this development are: 1) the lack of almost any other facilities in the area, 2) the organization of a teen lounge, dances, and sports activities by the teens, 3) availability of facilities, excluding the pool and gym, were open to all teens whether members or not, 4) the increased interest of the "Y" in providing some staff and equipment for the use of the teens.

We would also like to emphasize that during the summer the activities which were organized depended to a great deal on the teens. Much of the equipment, including amplifiers, decorations, records, etc. were provided by the teens. Also most of the organizing and planning has been due to the initiative we ourselves have taken. In other words, while we are grateful to the "Y" for the use of certain areas of the building, the teen club has so far operated with little or no direct financial assistance.

But there is much more to be done. For the teen club to continue to be effective and grow, much more planning, organization, and probably some financial assistance will be necessary. Specifically we see certain developments as desirable if the "Y" is to deeply involve itself in the needs of the teens: 1) financial assistance for water polo teams, basketball games, etc. 2) one

permanent room for use as a teen lounge, 3) experiment with possibilities for teen use of the building on evenings during the week and Saturday nights, 4) a floating fund for the teen club which would allow loans to begin projects and would hopefully but not necessarily be paid back.

Along with our hopes for the future, we also realize there are problems. There has been some damage to the building and equipment. In past cases, the teens have paid out of their own money for damage done to one wall and a record player. We will continue to pay for damages, but more important, we hope that the emphasis we have lately put on respecting property will continue to be effective and more, serious damage will not result.

In conclusion, we would like to thank this Board for the opportunity of appearing before them and sharing our plans and problems. We hope that for the rest of the year, by working with this Board, the Youth Committee, and Y.M.C.A. staff, the teen club will continue to grow and serve the needs of the young people of our community.